The EHA SWG on Thrombocytopenias was established at the EHA Congress in Lyon 2003. The group subsequently expanded its field of interest with the inclusion of platelet function disorders.

The purposes of the group are:
- To promote education and instruction in platelet disorders by Scientific Conference and the annual meeting at the EHA annual Congress.
- To develop guidelines for diagnosis and/or treatment of thrombocytopenias and platelet function disorders.
- To promote clinical and laboratory studies on thrombocytopenias and platelet function disorders. The studies are conducted under the auspices of the EHA-SWG, but are open to collaboration with all interested researchers.
- To stimulate whenever possible joint initiatives with other scientific societies interested in platelet diseases

The SWG includes the following subcommittees (and related coordinators):
- Francesco Rodeghiero (Italy), subcommittee for Adult ITP
- Thomas Kühne (Switzerland), subcommittee for Childhood ITP
- Patrizia Noris (Italy), subcommittee for Inherited thrombocytopenias
- Paolo Gresele (Italy), subcommittee for Inherited and acquired platelet function disorders
- Andreas Greinacher (Germany), subcommittee for Drug-induced thrombocytopenias
- Hana Raslova (France), subcommittee for Biology of megakaryocytes and thrombopoiesis
- Marie Scully (United Kingdom), subcommittee for Thrombotic microangiopathies

An important advance in the field of inherited thrombocytopenias and platelet function disorders was demonstration that treatments other than platelet transfusion can reduce the bleeding tendency and improve the quality of life of affected subjects.

- Concerning inherited thrombocytopenias, members of this SWG have shown for the first time that thrombopoietin receptor agonists can substitute for platelet transfusions for
preparing patients to hemostatic challenges subjects with MYH9-related disease. Moreover, a recently completed clinical trial demonstrated that these drug may be effective also in other forms of inherited thrombocytopenias (unpublished data). A major goal is now to demonstrate that these agents can be used for long term treatment of patients with very severe forms. The SWG is now taking the first steps for organizing a European clinical trial to achieve this result.

- For what it concerns inherited disorder of platelet function, a major advance was demonstration that Recombinant Activated Factor VII is effective in improving hemostasis of subjects with Glanzmann thrombasthenia, one of the most severe inherited bleeding disorders. A major aim of this SWG is to develop guidelines for treatment of this condition taking into account this important advancement of knowledge. To make this document a point of reference for all the physicians involved in the management of patients with Glanzmann thrombasthenia, our EHA-SWG will operate in close connection with the corresponding group of the International Society of Thrombosis and Hemostasis (ISTH). So, this is a EHA and ISTH joint initiative.

4. Chair and affiliations: Chair of the SWG Carlo L. Balduini, IRCCS Policlinico San Matteo Foundation and University of Pavia, Pavia, Italy. (c.balduini@smatteo.pv.it)

5. Board members and terms: • Andreas Greinacher, Co-Chair (Germany), <greinach@uni-greifswald.de> • Francesco Rodeghiero (Italy), <francesco.rodeghiero@gmail.com> • Thomas Kühne (Switzerland), <Thomas.Kuehne@ukbb.ch> • Patrizia Noris (Italy), <P.Noris@smatteo.pv.it> • Paolo Gresele (Italy), <paolo.gresele@unipg.it> • Hana Raslova (France), <hana.raslova@gustaveroussy.fr> • Marie Scully (United Kingdom), <m.scully@ucl.ac.uk> The executive committee is responsible for coordinating the SWG from 2016 to 2018.

6. Conflicts of interest of the board: Board members may participate in clinical trials sponsored by pharmaceuticals. They may have also spoken at meetings and given consultative advice for companies during the development of novel therapies. The working party aims to maintain professional working relationships with the pharmaceutical companies, but also wants to act without any conflict in clinical trials, and in establishing diagnostic and therapeutic guidelines.

7. Membership list with names and email addresses: Anna Savoia (savoia@burlo.trieste.it), Bauters Anne (anne.bauters@chru-lille.fr), Bayart Sophie (Sophie.BAYART@chu-rennes.fr), Benabdallah-Guedira S (guedirasch@gmail.com), Boehlen Françoise (Francoise.Boehlen@hcuge.ch), Borg Jeanne-Yvonne (Jeanne-Yvonne.Borg@chu-rouen.fr), Bury Loredana (loredana.bury@gmail.com), Bussel James (jbussel@med.cornell.edu), Cattaneo Marco (marco.cattaneo@unimi.it), Cid Ana R. (cid_ana@gva.es), Civaschi Elisa (elysa3@alice.it), Cuker Adam (adam.cuker@uphs.upenn.edu), De Candia Erica (edecandia@rm.unicatt.it), de Maistre Emmanuel (emmanuel.demaistre@chu-dijon.fr), Fabris Fabrizio (fabrizio.fabris@unipd.it), Falcinelli Emanuela (falcinelli.emanuela@libero.it),
8. List of scientific activities

- EHA-SWG meetings proposed in the past calendar year
  Given the success of the EHA-SWG Scientific Meetings on 'Hemostasis imbalance: Critical issues and Therapeutic approaches' held in Barcelona 18 to 20 September 2015, and the 'Scientific Conference on Bleeding Disorders: Increase your Knowledge and Improve Patient Care!' held in Barcelona 14 to 20 September 2016, both organized in collaboration with the SWG on Bleeding and thrombosis, in 2017 this SWG proposed a new Scientific Meeting for 2019. Since the meeting was proposed for the autumn of 2019, the details have not yet been defined. However, the title 'Recognize and Manage systemic risk of thrombosis and bleeding' has been proposed. The following topics concerning platelet disorders have been hypothesized:
  - Quantification of bleeding risk in subjects with thrombocytopenia and/or defective platelet function
  - Management of active bleeding in subjects with platelet defects
  - Management of bleeding risk in pregnant women with platelet defects
  - New drugs for increasing platelet count and new indications for old drugs

For further details see the report of the SWG on Bleeding and thrombosis.
- EHA-SWG meetings held in the past calendar year
  None

- SWG session at the 2017 EHA congress in Madrid
  -Session title: Treatment of difficult to treat thrombocytopenias
  -Session objectives: Improve the therapeutic approach to some forms of thrombocytopenia whose treatment is not defined by guidelines and is therefore problematic. Take advantage of the availability of innovative therapies for specific forms of thrombocytopenia
  -Chair: Carlo L. Balduini, Pavia, IT
  -Speakers and topics:
    Nicole P. Juffermans, Amsterdam, NL: Thrombocytopenia in the critically ill patient
    Spero R. Cataland, Columbus, OH, US: Acute management of thrombotic microangiopathies
    Alessandro Pecci, Pavia, IT: Is it possible to increase platelet count in inherited thrombocytopenias without giving platelet transfusions?
  -No data have been communicated on attendance, audience, quotes and evaluations from chairs/speakers/participants

- Invited lectures of the Chair
  -Key note Lecture: 'The evolving picture of inherited thrombocytopenias', 6° Workshop of the Italian Society for Experimental Hematology, Parma, 17-18 November 2017
  -Lecture on 'Is ITP a thrombotic disorder?', VI National Workshop on Platelet, Milan, 22-23 November 2017

- Clinical trials promoted by or involving the SWG

- Collaborations on international projects promoted by or involving the SWG
  -European guidelines for diagnosis and treatment of Glanzmann Thrombasthenia, in collaboration with the ISTH. This project is ongoing.
  -Clinical trial on eltrombopag in inherited thrombocytopenias. This project is in preparation.

- Translational work promoted by or involving the SWG
  none
- Grants received by SWG related networks or principal investigators
  - European PLAtel NETwork for studying physiopathology of two inherited thrombocytopenias, THC2 and MYH9-RD, characterized by genetic alterations of RUNX1-target genes, granted by European Commission as part of the E-RARE Programme of the European Community for Research, Technological Development and Demonstration Activities. Two of the three partners of this study, concluded in 2017, are members of the board of this SWG (Carlo Balduini and Hana Raslova)

- Other social & public activities
  - 3° ITP Patient’s Day, Bari, Italy, 28 October 2017

9. List of publications from or related to the SWG

- Original scientific publications on behalf of the SWG on Thrombocytopenias and Platelet function disorders.

- Review papers by the SWG chair


- Books and book chapters
  - Platelets in Thrombotic and Non-Thrombotic Disorders - Paolo Gresele, Neal S. Kleiman, José A. Lopez, Clive P. Page Editors - Springer International Publishing AG 2017. Some members of the board of this SWG wrote chapters of this book edited by Paolo Gresele (member of the board)